

*Information Collection Request Title:* Rural Health Care Services Outreach Program Measures OMB No. 0915-XXXX—New.

*Abstract:* The Rural Health Care Services Outreach (Outreach) Program is authorized by Section 330A(e) of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act (42 U.S.C. 254c(e)), as amended, to “promote rural health care services outreach by expanding the delivery of health care services to include new and enhanced services in rural areas.” The goals for the Outreach Program are the following: (1) Expand the delivery of health care services to include new and enhanced services exclusively in rural communities; (2) deliver health care services through a strong consortium in which every consortium member organization is actively involved and engaged in the planning and delivery of services; (3) utilize and/or adapt an evidence-based or promising practice

model(s) in the delivery of health care services; and (4) improve population health, demonstrate health outcomes and sustainability.

*Need and Proposed Use of the Information:* For this program, performance measures were drafted to provide data to the program and to enable HRSA to provide aggregate program data required by Congress under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993. These measures cover the principal topic areas of interest to the Office of Rural Health Policy, including: (a) Access to care; (b) population demographics; (c) staffing; (d) consortium/network; (e) sustainability; and (f) project specific domains. Several measures will be used for the Outreach Program. All measures will speak to ORHP’s progress toward meeting the goals set.

*Likely Respondents:* The respondents would be recipients of the Rural Health Care Services Outreach grant funding.

*Burden Statement:* Burden in this context means the time expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, disclose or provide the information requested. This includes the time needed to review instructions; to develop, acquire, install and utilize technology and systems for the purpose of collecting, validating and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; to train personnel and to be able to respond to a collection of information; to search data sources; to complete and review the collection of information; and to transmit or otherwise disclose the information. The total annual burden hours estimated for this Information Collection Request are summarized in the table below.

*Total estimated annualized burden hours:*

Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Total responses	Average burden per response (in hours)	Total burden hours
Rural Health Care Services Outreach Grant Program Measures .....	50	1	50	3	150
Total .....	50	1	50	3	150

HRSA specifically requests comments on: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency’s functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

**Jackie Painter,**

*Acting Director, Division of Policy and Information Coordination.*

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**BILLING CODE 4165–15–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Health Resources and Services Administration**

**Agency Information Collection**

**Activities: Proposed Collection: Public Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the requirement for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects (Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) announces plans to submit an Information Collection Request (ICR), described below, to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Prior to submitting the ICR to OMB, HRSA seeks comments from the public regarding the burden estimate, below, or any other aspect of the ICR.

**DATES:** Comments on this Information Collection Request must be received no later than February 20, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments to [paperwork@hrsa.gov](mailto:paperwork@hrsa.gov) or mail the HRSA Information Collection Clearance Officer, Room 10–29, Parklawn Building, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and draft instruments, email [paperwork@hrsa.gov](mailto:paperwork@hrsa.gov)

or call the HRSA Information Collection Clearance Officer at (301) 443–1984.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** When submitting comments or requesting information, please include the information request collection title for reference. Information Collection Request Title: Rural Health Network Development Program OMB No. 0915–XXXX—New

*Abstract:* This program is authorized under Section 330A(f) of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 254c(f)). This authority directs the Office of Rural Health Policy (ORHP) to support grants for eligible entities to promote, through planning and implementation, the development of integrated health care networks that have combined the functions of the entities participating in the networks in order to: (i) Achieve efficiencies; (ii) expand access to, coordinate, and improve the quality of essential health care services; and (iii) strengthen the rural health care system as a whole.

The Rural Health Network Development Program is designed to assist rural health care providers to acclimate to the evolving health care environment by addressing relevant

topics to the health care environment as identified by the rural community. The program also enables rural health networks to continue to be a locus of innovation in maximizing limited rural health resources in times of economic hardship and decreased access to health care services that can be modeled in other communities, both rural and urban. This is a 3-year competitive program for mature networks composed of at least three members that are separate, existing health care provider entities.

*Need and Proposed Use of the Information:* For this program, performance measures were drafted to

provide data to the program and to enable HRSA to provide aggregate program data. These measures cover the principal topic areas of interest to the Office of Rural Health Policy, including: (a) Network infrastructure; (b) network collaboration; (c) sustainability; and (d) network assessment. Several measures will be used for this program.

*Likely Respondents:* The respondents would be Rural Health Network Development Program grant recipients.

*Burden Statement:* Burden in this context means the time expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, disclose or provide the information requested. This includes the time needed to review instructions; to

develop, acquire, install and utilize technology and systems for the purpose of collecting, validating and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; to train personnel and to be able to respond to a collection of information; to search data sources; to complete and review the collection of information; and to transmit or otherwise disclose the information. The total annual burden hours estimated for this Information Collection Request are summarized in the table below.

Total Estimated Annualized burden hours:

Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Total responses	Average burden per response (in hours)	Total burden hours
Performance Improvement and Measurement System (PIMS) Database .....	54	1	54	6.7	361.8
Total .....	54	1	54	6.7	361.8

HRSA specifically requests comments on: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

**Jackie Painter,**  
Acting Director, Division of Policy and Information Coordination.  
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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Indian Health Service**

[CFDA NUMBERS: 93.971, 93.123, AND 93.972]

**Indian Health Professions Preparatory, Indian Health Professions Pre-Graduate and Indian Health Professions Scholarship Programs Announcement Type: Initial**

**Key Dates**

Application Deadline: February 28, 2015, for continuing students  
Application Deadline: March 28, 2015, for new students  
Application Review: May 11-22, 2015

Continuation Award Notification  
Deadline: June 5, 2015  
New Award Notification Deadline: July 2, 2015  
Award Start Date: August 1, 2015  
Acceptance/Decline of Awards  
Deadline: August 14, 2015

**I. Funding Opportunity Description**

The Indian Health Service (IHS) is committed to encouraging American Indians and Alaska Natives to enter the health professions and to assuring the availability of Indian health professionals to serve Indians. The IHS is committed to the recruitment of students for the following programs:

- The Indian Health Professions Preparatory Scholarship authorized by Section 103 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, Public Law 94-437 (1976), as amended (IHCIA), codified at 25 U.S.C. 1613(b)(1).
- The Indian Health Professions Pre-graduate Scholarship authorized by Section 103 of the IHCIA, codified at 25 U.S.C. 1613(b)(2).
- The Indian Health Professions Scholarship authorized by Section 104 of the IHCIA, codified at 25 U.S.C. 1613a.

Full-time and part-time scholarships will be funded for each of the three scholarship programs.

The scholarship award selections and funding are subject to availability of funds appropriated for the Scholarship Program.

**II. Award Information**

*Type of Award*  
Scholarship.

*Estimated Funds Available*

An estimated \$11.3 million will be available for fiscal year (FY) 2015 awards. The IHS Scholarship Program (IHSSP) anticipates, but cannot guarantee, due to possible funding changes, student scholarship selections from any or all of the approved disciplines in the Preparatory, Pre-graduate or Health Professions Scholarship Programs for the scholarship period 2015-2016. Due to the rising cost of education and the decreasing number of scholars who can be funded by the IHSSP, the IHSSP has changed the funding policy for Preparatory and Pre-graduate Scholarship awards and reallocated a greater percentage of its funding in an effort to increase the number of Health Professions Scholarships, and inherently the number of service-obligated scholars, to better meet the health care needs of the IHS and its Tribal and Urban Indian health care system partners.

*Anticipated Number of Awards*

Approximately 40 awards will be made under the Health Professions Preparatory and Pre-graduate Scholarship Programs for Indians. The awards are for ten months in duration, with an additional two months for approved summer school requests, and